Vermont

Nutrition and Physical Activity Program to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases (Web site under development)

The Epidemic

56% of Vermont adults are overweight or obese. (CDC BRFSS, 2002)

The obesity rate for Vermont adults rose By 77% from 1990 to 2002) (CDC BRFSS, 2002)

26% of Vermont high school students are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight. (CDC YRBSS, 2003)

29% of low-income children between 2 and 5 years of age in Vermont are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight.

(CDC PedNSS, 2002)

Program Priorities

The Vermont Department of Health adopted the following objectives for the prevention of obesity in 2001:

- ➤ Increase the percentage of adults who engage in regular physical activity.
- ➤ Increase the percentage of middle schools and junior high schools that require daily physical education for all students.
- ➤ Reduce the percentage of youth who are overweight or at risk for overweight.
- ➤ Increase the percentage of people who eat at least two daily servings of fruit.
- ➤ Increase the percentage of people who eat at least three daily servings of vegetables.
- Reduce the percentage of adults who are overweight.
- Reduce the percentage of adults who are obese.

Partners

The Vermont Department of Health is in the process of identifying and recruiting potential public and private sector partners. The state has a number of existing coalitions dealing with health issues that will serve as models for the obesity prevention coalition and as resources for identifying and recruiting partners.

Upcoming Events and Products

- Formation of a coordinating council for the obesity prevention program
- ➤ A burden of obesity report
- ➤ A comprehensive inventory of current strategies and program related to obesity
- An obesity monitoring and surveillance plan
- Criteria for prioritizing and selecting interventions

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